

the cutting blade having a blade thickness  $\alpha$  (mm) at a speed  $\beta$  (mm/minute) during the cutting,

wherein  $0 < \beta \leq -253\alpha + 65$  (mm/minute).

6. (Amended) A method for cutting an optical fiber according to Claim 5, further comprising a step of heating said cutting blade.

7. (Amended) A method for cutting an optical fiber according to Claim 5, wherein said cutting blade is moved by an optical fiber cutting apparatus including a cutting blade holder configured to hold and to move said cutting blade to a cutting position, an optical fiber supporter configured to support the optical fiber such that said cutting blade is perpendicular to the optical fiber at the cutting position, a speed reducing device configured to reduce and to transmit drive force, and a drive force transmission device configured to transmit the drive force from said speed reducing device to said cutting blade holder.

8. (Amended) A method for cutting an optical fiber according to Claim 7, wherein said drive force is provided by a motor.

9. (Amended) A method for cutting an optical fiber according to Claim 8, wherein said speed reducing device comprises a plurality of speed reducing gears configured to reduce a rotational speed of said motor.

10. (Amended) A method for cutting an optical fiber according to Claim 9, wherein said drive force transmission device comprises a cam configured to rotate along with a rotation of said plurality of speed reducing gears and a cam follower configured to move in a rectilinear direction along with a rotation of said cam...

*b\ concluded*